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THE EASTERN CONFERENCE SEMIFINALS BEGIN TONIGHT. PAGE 33

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Manslaughter charges dropped in Graham case

Appeal in the works. The indictment against the cop who shot and killed Ramarley Graham, 18, in the Bronx has been thrown out.
All semantics. The case was dismissed on what was characterized by defense attorneys and the judge as a grammatical misstep.
Backlash in the Bronx. Rights activists and community members protested the decision outside of the Hall of Justice yesterday. PAGE 02

The true cost of cheap labor

PAGES 14-15

In a Metro exclusive, photographer Taslima Akhter describes what it was like to be behind the lens of the disturbing image she captured when visiting the wreckage of the Rana Plaza garment factory in Bangladesh, which killed more than 1,000 workers last month. / TASLIMA AKHTER

No relation to Hannah

French Montana will be on your playlists this summer.
PAGE 23

Yes, we Cannes

See the films we're buzzing about at the fest.
PAGES 20-21

Do the first date right

Read our Top 5 no-nos to ensure success.
PAGE 30

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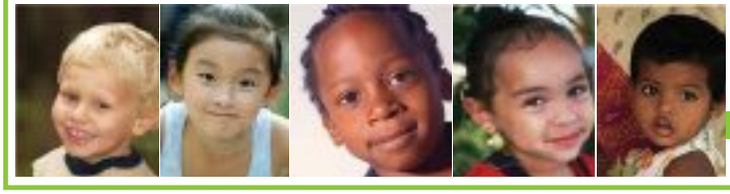

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NEWS

Online

Trending online at Metro.us

1 CCR: Leak of Stop-and-Frisk memo 'nothing short of outrageous'

2 VIDEO: Man donates Abercrombie & Fitch clothing to homeless

3 Americans don't care for hipsters

Quoted

"Prescription opioid painkillers are out of control in our borough and taking far too many of our loved ones."

STATEN ISLAND BOROUGH PRESIDENT JAMES MOLINARO

Manslaughter dropped in death of Bronx teen

Scales of justice. The indictment against an NYPD cop was thrown out in the high-profile case of Bronx teen Ramarley Graham.

Due to what defense attorneys and the judge characterized as a grammatical misstep by an assistant district attorney to a grand jury, the indictment against NYPD Officer Richard Haste, charged with the shooting death of Bronx teen Ramarley Graham, has been thrown out.

Haste was arraigned last year on manslaughter charges for fatally shooting the 18-year-old. Haste and other officers said they believed Graham had a gun when they followed him home and into his apartment.

Graham was reportedly flushing a small amount of marijuana down the toilet when cops burst in on him and shot him.

The NYPD at the time said Haste was inadequately trained for the undercover street narcotics assignment he had just been posted to a few months prior. Graham's parents and community members gathered outside the Bronx Hall of Justice to protest the decision.

In a statement, Graham's father, Frank, said, "We will keep fighting no matter what. We will never stop until justice is [served] in this case, until Richard Haste goes to prison for murdering our son."

The elder Graham noted the options of going back to the grand jury for a second try or taking the case to federal court.

DANIELLE TCHOLAKIAN
danielle.tcholakian@metro.us

Jazzminn Mack, left, girlfriend of Ramarley Graham, stood with Frank Graham during a vigil. / GETTY IMAGES

Weiner hires campaign manager

Anthony Weiner may run for mayor. / GETTY IMAGES

Former Rep. Anthony Weiner may announce he is running for mayor as soon as next week. The former congressman has hired a campaign manager, according to a report.

Weiner has hired Danny Kedem, who most recently worked on a failed Staten Island congressional race last year, Politico.com reports. Kedem has worked on mayoral races in the past.

Weiner will likely announce that he is running next week, sources told Politico. In addition to Kedem, Weiner has also hired a press secretary and other staffers.

A poll released last month placed Weiner in second place in the mayoral race, trailing only City Council Speaker Christine Quinn. Quinn led the race with support from 26 percent of voters, and Weiner came in second with 15 percent, according to the NBC New York/Marist poll.

The former congressman resigned in 2011 amid a sexting scandal. Weiner said in a recent New York Times Magazine interview that he was considering a run for mayor because it is "now or never" for him to return to politics. **LAURA SHIN**

Video crime

NYU professor busted for filming women

A New York Post report exposed a 34-year-old medieval art expert as an alleged Peeping Tom.

NYU professor Ross Finocchio was reportedly video-recording women in the dressing rooms at Beacon's Closet by placing his iPhone in a shoe and sliding it under the divider toward the neighboring changing room.

Finocchio is charged with unlawful surveillance, which is a felony. The professor reportedly admitted to making the recordings. **DANIELLE TCHOLAKIAN**

Boat ride

Red Hook gets summer ferry

Red Hook will welcome a free ferry service from Manhattan this summer.

The free Red Hook Summer Ferry service will begin May 25, running from Pier 11 in Manhattan to Van Brunt Street and then to IKEA, officials announced.

Ferry ride / GETTY IMAGES

Officials say this will bring more residents to Sandy-affected businesses in Red Hook.

"Hurricane Sandy hit the Red Hook community hard, and that's why we're making it easier than ever for New Yorkers to get to small businesses in the area," New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg said. **ALISON BOWEN**

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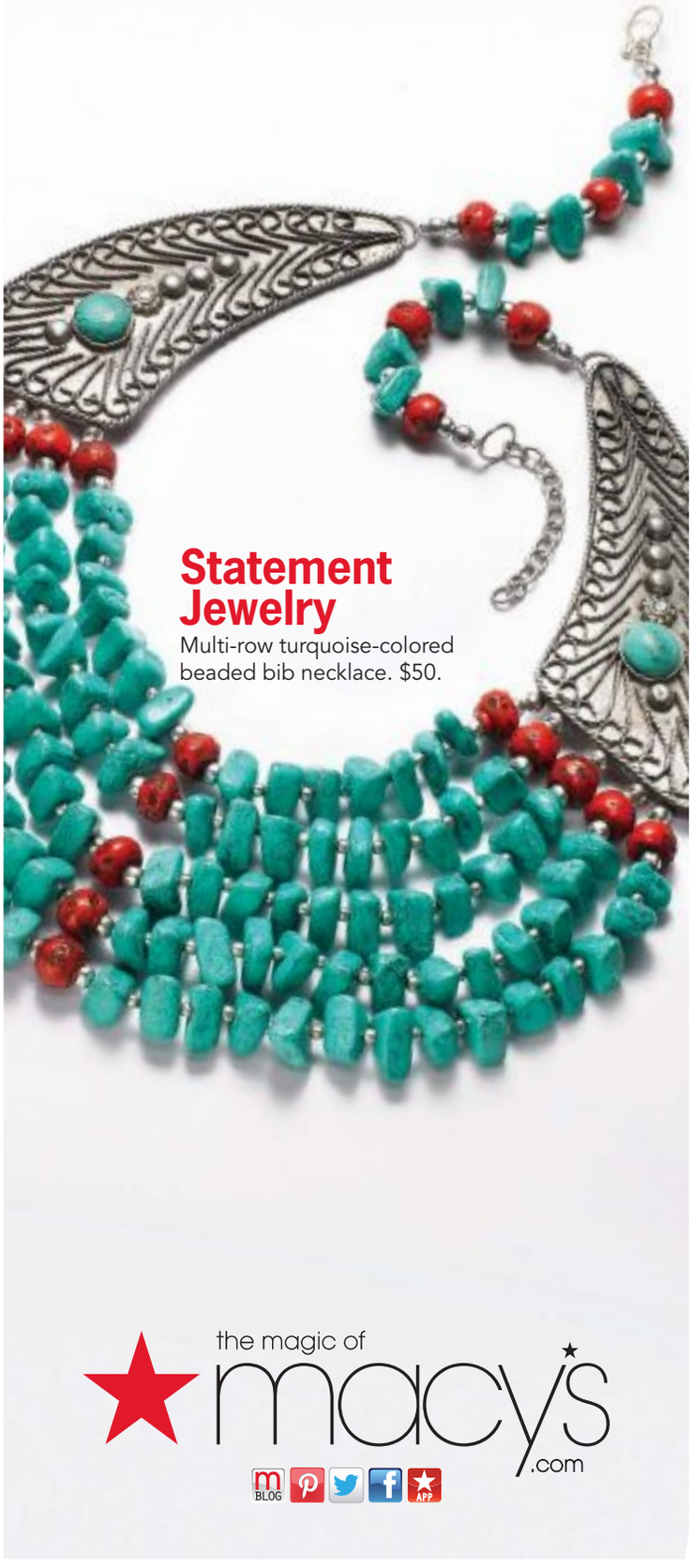

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Outbreak of measles cases hits Brooklyn

There have been 22 reported cases of measles in Brooklyn so far this year. / GETTY IMAGES

Vaccination. A measles outbreak has hit one Brooklyn community and may be spreading, health officials say.

There have been 21 cases of measles reported in Borough Park and one case in Williamsburg this year, according to the city's Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. Those infected are between 10 months and 32 years old, DNAinfo.com reports.

The first case was imported from London, according to the health department. Measles is a highly contagious disease and can be deadly. Symptoms include rash, fever, cough, runny nose and sore throat.

The disease can be prevented with a vaccine. The new outbreak may have spread between families who refused vaccinations, according to DNAinfo.com.

This is the fourth time since 2008 that a measles outbreak has hit the ultra-Orthodox community in Borough Park, DNAinfo.com also reported.

LAURA SHIN
lshin@metro.us

No vaccines

The outbreak struck in a primarily Orthodox Jewish community, the same place that similiar outbreaks occurred in the past.

Rent increase. Some Stuy Town residents consider rent strike

A group of Stuy Town residents are considering a rent strike after their rent was increased before their leases expire.

According to NY1, about 1,300 residents of Stuyvesant Town and Peter Cooper Village are upset because they say they received a rent increase notice.

Some of the residents' rent will jump past $1,000.

ALISON BOWEN

Stuyvesant Town / METRO

Candy from baby

Thief nabs $500 from toddler

Police have arrested a man who snatched $500 from a baby after the child removed the money from his mother's purse.

Warren Hayes of the Bronx turned himself in on Tuesday, cops said. Hayes allegedly saw a boy remove $500 from his mother's purse. He approached the boy and took the money.

LAURA SHIN

SI painkiller overdose cases 'out of control'

Pill poppers. New NYC data reveals Staten Island pill deaths outstripped citywide statistics.

The borough of Staten Island experienced the largest increase in prescription pill-related deaths in recent years, NYC's Department of Health and Mental Hygiene reported yesterday.

Citywide, from 2005 to 2011, overdose deaths from painkillers shot up 65 percent, data showed.

But in Staten Island, painkiller overdose deaths increased 261 percent in the same time frame.

"Prescription opioid painkillers are out of control in our borough and taking far too many of our loved ones," Borough President James Molinaro said.

In the five boroughs, 220 people died from painkillers in 2011, said the city, including 40 Staten Island residents.

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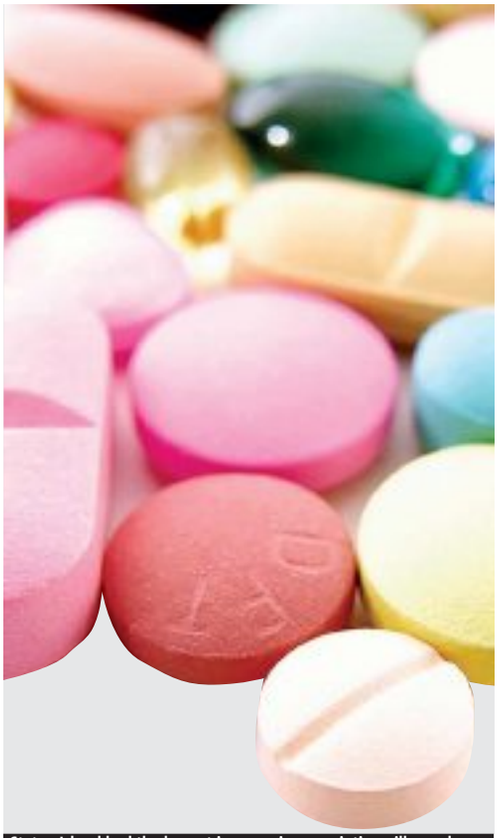

Staten Island had the largest increase in prescription pill overdoses.
GETTY IMAGES

Bathroom break

Q train hits man urinating in subway

A man was hit by a Q train yesterday after stopping to urinate on the subway tracks.

According to the New York Post, a man went down into a tunnel at the Barclays Center station to relieve himself.

The Q train struck him after he climbed onto the tracks to use the bathroom.

He was taken to the hospital where he was in stable condition, according to the newspaper.

ALISON BOWEN

Green biking. Cyclists plan to help clean up damaged Fort Tilden

If you want to help clean beaches suffering after Sandy, now is your chance.

Environmental group Time's Up! is organizing a bike ride this Sunday out to Fort Tilden.

The group hopes Fort Tilden will reopen sooner once it is cleaned.

Bikers will meet at 9:15 a.m. Sunday morning at Grand Army Plaza. They will ride together to Fort Tilden, then clean up the beach throughout the day, moving sand and removing debris.

ALISON BOWEN

Spring cycling / GETTY IMAGES

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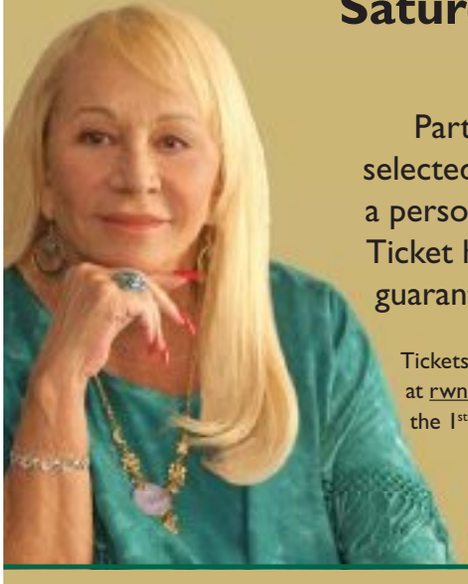

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A child passes a memorial for Patz, who disappeared in 1979 while walking to school. / GETTY IMAGES

Judge: Etan Patz murder suspect fit to stand trial

High-profile. The man who confessed to the 1979 killing of Etan Patz should stand trial for murder, a judge ruled.

An attorney for Pedro Hernandez, 51, of Maple Shade, New Jersey, had asked the judge to throw out the indictment, arguing that the confession alone was not sufficient to support the murder charges.

But in a brief hearing, Justice Maxwell Wiley ruled in state Supreme Court in Manhattan that the trial may proceed, finding there is enough evidence to try Hernandez on the felony charges.

Police said Hernandez in May 2012 confessed to a crime that has long haunted New Yorkers, saying he had lured the boy near SoHo and strangled him on May 25, 1979.

Hernandez no longer admits to the crime, said his lawyer, Harvey Fishbein.

Etan Patz, 6, disappeared while walking for the first time alone to a school bus stop. **REUTERS**

Quoted

"There is no crime scene here. There were no witnesses to a crime." Fishbein

Scandal. Vito Lopez not likely to face harrassment charges

State Assemblyman Vito Lopez, who is accused in a sexual harassment scandal, is expected to escape all criminal charges against him, the New York Post reports.

The prosecutor in the trial will announce today that there was not enough evidence to charge Lopez, sources told the Post.

The assemblyman is accused of groping young female staffers.

Lopez remains in the assembly, but was forced to step down as Brooklyn's Democratic Party leader.

The assemblyman held a fundraiser last month for a possible City Council run.

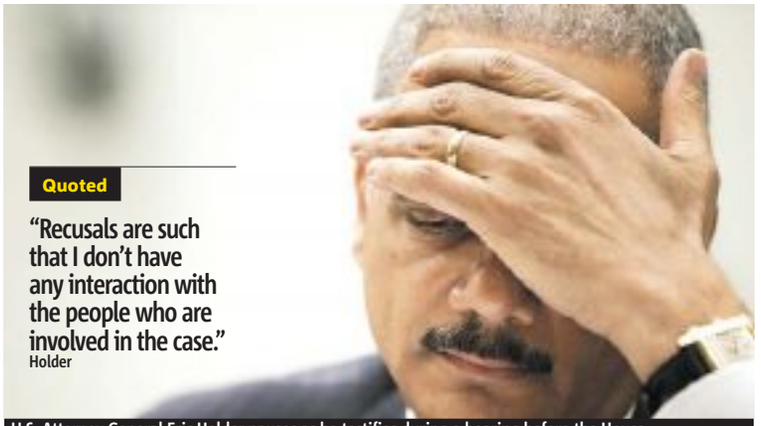
National Organization for Women president Sonia Ossorio blasted Lopez today, saying he should be expelled from political office, now and in the future. **LAURA SHIN**

Vito Lopez / PROVIDED

Quoted

"The Assembly engaged in a shameful cover-up at great expense to all women who live ... in New York State." Ossorio

AG Holder sidesteps lawmakers' questions on AP records seizure



Quoted

"Recusals are such that I don't have any interaction with the people who are involved in the case."
Holder

U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder pauses as he testifies during a hearing before the House Judiciary Committee on oversight of the U.S. Department of Justice yesterday. / GETTY IMAGES

Critics. The seizure has created a backlash and led to questions over how the administration is balancing the need for national security with privacy rights.

Lawmakers pounded U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder yesterday with questions about the Justice Department's secret seizure of Associated Press telephone records, and grew frustrated when he said he had limited answers.

Holder noted to the House Judiciary Committee that he had recused himself from the leak investigation that prompted the phone records seizure, so the decision was not his.

But lawmakers still pushed him on why the subpoena for the two months of phone records last year was so broad and why the Justice Department did not first try to negotiate with AP to obtain information.

"We don't know where the buck stops," said U.S. Representative Jim Sensenbrenner, a Wisconsin Republican.

The phone records issue erupted on Monday when the AP publicly complained about the seizure. The AP said it was informed last Friday that the Justice Department had gathered records for more than 20 phone lines assigned to the news agency and its reporters, covering April and May of last year. **REUTERS**

Legal

White House presses Congress to revive media protection bill

The White House yesterday sought to revive legislation that would give journalists legal protection when guarding their sources, a move that comes days after the Obama administration revealed it had seized records from The Associated Press news agency in a leak probe.

A White House official confirmed the administration was pushing for the 2009 bill, supported by Democratic Senator Charles Schumer of New York, to be taken up again in Congress.

President Barack Obama has come under fire after the seizure of the AP telephone records, denounced by critics as a gross intrusion into freedom of the press. **REUTERS**

IRS scandal

House speaker suggests jail time for violations

House of Representatives Speaker John Boehner raised the possibility of jail time yesterday for law violations in the growing scandal involving the Internal Revenue Service's targeting of conservative groups for extra tax scrutiny.

Boehner / GETTY IMAGES

"My question isn't about who is going to have to resign, my question is who is going to jail over this scandal," Boehner, the top Republican in Congress, told reporters. **REUTERS**

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Lawyer: Accused Cleveland kidnapper to plead not guilty

The murder charges would stem from forced miscarriages that police say were suffered by one of his victims. / GETTY IMAGES

Castro. An Ohio prosecutor last week vowed to try to bring murder charges that could carry the death penalty.

The man charged with holding three women captive and raping them during a decade in his Cleveland home plans to plead not guilty to criminal charges, one of his lawyers said yesterday.

The lawyer, Jaye Schlachet, said in a phone interview that the suspect, Ariel Castro, 52, is on suicide watch in Cuyahoga County jail in Ohio, but it was not clear whether Castro planned to go to trial.

Castro last week was charged with four counts of kidnapping and three counts of rape. The three women kidnapped escaped from his home in a working-class section of Cleveland.

The news that the three had been held for so long in such a populated neighborhood stunned the close-knit community. Two of the women were held in harsh conditions, restrained with chains and duct tape for long periods of time.

In an earlier interview with Cleveland's WKYC television, another of Castro's lawyers, Craig Weintraub, said his client was not a "monster."

An Ohio prosecutor last week vowed to try to bring murder charges that could carry the death penalty against Ariel Castro.

Those charges would stem from forced miscarriages that police say were suffered by one of his victims. The initial police report on the case said that at least five times after impregnating Knight, Ariel Castro allegedly starved and beat her in the abdomen in an effort to induce miscarriages. **REUTERS**

Quoted

"The initial portrayal by the media has been one of a 'monster,' and that's not the impression that I got when I talked to him for three hours." Weintraub

O.J. Simpson takes witness stand in bid for new robbery trial

O.J. Simpson took the witness stand in a Las Vegas courtroom yesterday seeking a new trial in an armed-robbery case that sent him to prison five years ago.

Simpson, 65, was called to testify in the third day of a hearing into his claims that the lawyer who served as his defense attorney mishandled the Nevada robbery case.

He was brought to court from a Nevada prison where he is serving a sentence of up to 33 years for the 2007 incident, in which he and five other men stormed into a room at the Palace Station Hotel and Casino and took thousands of dollars in memorabilia from a pair of sports collectors at gunpoint. **REUTERS**

Jail

U.S. citizen Bae begins sentence in N. Korea prison

A U.S. citizen began a 15-year hard labor sentence at a "special prison" in North Korea yesterday, for what authorities described as crimes against the state.

Kenneth Bae, a naturalized U.S. citizen who was born in South Korea, was sentenced after a North Korean court convicted him of what it said was an attempt at state subversion. **REUTERS**

Scientists create human stem cells through cloning

Seemingly magic cells. Scientists can harvest embryonic stem cells capable of morphing into any of the 200-plus kinds that make up a person.

Dolly the sheep is the world's first cloned mammal. / GETTY IMAGES

After more than 15 years of failures by scientists around the world and one outright fraud, biologists have finally created human stem cells by the same technique that produced Dolly the cloned sheep in 1996: They transplanted genetic material from an adult cell into an egg whose own DNA had been removed.

The feat, reported yesterday in the journal Cell, could re-ignite the field of stem-cell medicine, which has been hobbled by technical challenges as well as ethical issues.

Until now, the most natural sources of human stem cells have been human embryos, whose use in research poses ethical quandaries. The technique announced on yesterday, by scientists at Oregon Health & Science University and the Oregon National Primate Research Center, uses unfertilized human eggs.

Eliminating the need for human embryos could boost attempts to use stem cells and their progeny to replace cells damaged or destroyed in heart disease, Parkinson's disease, multiple sclerosis, spinal cord injuries and other devastating conditions.

But the achievement could also revive fears of reproductive cloning, or producing genetic copies of living (or dead) individuals.

REUTERS

Study. Ice melt, sea level rise, to be less severe than feared

A melt of ice on Greenland and Antarctica is likely to be less severe than expected this century, limiting sea level rise to a maximum of 27 inches, an international study said.

Even so, such a rise could dramatically change coastal environments in the lifetimes of people born today with ever more severe storm surges and erosion, according to the ice2sea project by 24 mostly European scientific institutions.

Some scientific studies have projected sea level rise of up to 6 feet by 2100, a figure that U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has called a worst case that would swamp large tracts of land from Bangladesh to Florida.

REUTERS

Ice melts on the western coast of Greenland. / GETTY IMAGES

Sea levels

6

Some scientific studies have projected sea level rise of up to 6 feet by 2100.

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Bad hacks

LulzSec hackers 'at cutting edge' of cyber crime, court told

Four British hackers who took part in 2011 cyber-attacks on targets ranging from the CIA to Sony were audacious, arrogant men whose motivation was "anarchic self-amusement," a court heard yesterday.

The men, who have pleaded guilty to a variety of offences, were members of the hacking collective LulzSec that caused millions of dollars of damage to computer networks during an online crime spree they boasted about on Twitter.

"They are at the cutting edge of a contemporary, emerging species of international criminal offending known as cyber crime," prosecutor Sandip Patel told a London court. REUTERS

Google's singing a new song

Google on. Net giant's new music service is available in the U.S. for $9.99 a month.

Google Inc. launched a music service yesterday that allows users to listen to unlimited songs for $9.99 a month, challenging smaller companies like Pandora and Spotify in the market for streaming music.

With its new service, announced at its annual developers' conference in San Francisco, Google has adopted the streaming music business model ahead of rival Apple Inc., which pioneered online music purchases with iTunes.

Google's "All Access" service lets users customize song selections from 22 genres, ranging from Jazz to Indie music, stream individual playlists or listen to a curated, radio-like stream that can be tweaked. It will be launched for U.S. users first, before being rolled out to several other countries.

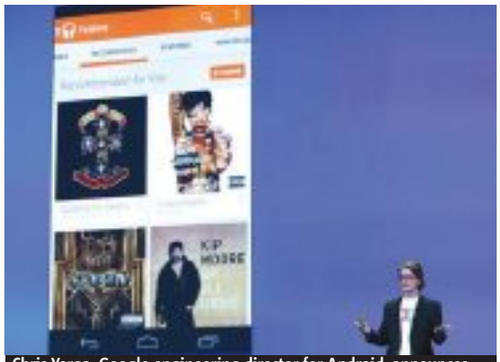
The entry of the world's largest Internet company amps up the competition as major technology giants jostle for position in the nascent market for subscription-based, streaming music.

Amazon.com Inc., and Apple are among the Silicon Valley powerhouses sounding out top recording industry executives, according to sources with knowledge of talks and media reports.

All these companies see a viable music streaming and subscription service as crucial to growing their presence in an exploding mobile environment. For Google and Apple, it is critical in ensuring users remain loyal to their mobile products.

Music has been integral to the mobile experience since the early days of iTunes, which upended the old models with its 99-cent-per-song buying approach.

Now, as smartphones and tablets supplant PCs and virtual storage replaces songs on devices, mobile players from handset makers to social networks realize they must stake out a place or risk ceding control of one of the largest components of mobile device usage. REUTERS



Chris Yerga, Google engineering director for Android, announces the new Google Play Music All Access. / JUSTIN SULLIVAN, GETTY IMAGES

Music to their ears

Google shares jumped $18.90, or more than 2 percent, to $906. Pandora shares slipped 0.4 percent to $16.68 on the NYSE.

- At $9.99 a month, the service is costlier than the $3.99 required for Pandora, but on par with Spotify.

Mobile millions

Google: 900M Android phones activated

Some 900 million smartphones and tablets running Google Inc.'s Android software have been activated since the platform's inception in 2010, executives said at the company's annual developers' conference.

Google said revenue from Android, the software used by Samsung and other mobile device makers that competes with Apple Inc., is also gaining momentum. Executives said revenue per user for Android app developers is now 2-1/2 times its year-earlier level. REUTERS

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Buying power. UN sanctions delay work on N Korea's nukes

Increasingly tough financial sanctions, an arms embargo and other international restrictions on trade with North Korea have significantly delayed expansion of Pyongyang's illicit nuclear arms program, according to a confidential report by a U.N. panel of experts seen by Reuters yesterday.

The latest annual report by the U.N. sanctions-monitoring group comes as the United States seeks to convince China that applying economic and other sanctions against its neighbor is crucial to halting the program.

The document covers the period up through last month, diplomats said, so it was too early to measure the effect the latest round of U.N. sanctions adopted in March. In the report to the U.N. Security Council's North Korea sanctions committee, the panel also recommended sanctioning three North Korean entities and 12 individuals.

The three entities the panel said should be blacklisted are the Ministry of Atomic Energy Industry, the Munitions Industry Department of the Central Committee of the Korean Workers Party and the State Space Development Bureau. REUTERS

Quoted

"While the imposition of sanctions has not halted the development of nuclear and ballistic missile programs, it has in all likelihood considerably delayed (North Korea's) timetable." The group, in a 52-page report

US sets $1B health care innovation initiative

No one wants you to be stuck in an expensive hospital stay — least of all the government. /GETTY IMAGES

A healthy balance. The program is aimed at cutting costs while improving results for federal health service providers.

The Obama administration on Wednesday announced a $1 billion initiative to fund innovations in federal health care programs aimed at cutting costs while improving the health results.

The Department of Health and Human Services said the money will be used to award and evaluate projects that test new payment and delivery models for federal programs including Medicare, Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program.

The announcement marks the second round of innovation initiatives for the administration under President Barack Obama's 2010 Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

The government is looking for models that can quickly cut costs in outpatient or post-acute settings, improve care for people with special needs, transform health care providers' financial and clinical models or improve health conditions by clinical category, geographic area or socioeconomic class. REUTERS

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Under the sea, a picture from a different world

A bloom of an alien-looking jellyfish lights up in beautiful pink against the sky. Photographer Yuzuru Masuda, 37, was mesmerized by the graceful moon jellyfish as he snorkeled in the Red Sea and stayed to watch for two hours. The fascinating creatures do not sting, so he let them swim right up to him and even brush against his arm. / YUZURU MASUDA, SOLENT NEWS

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Who are the Syrian Electronic Army?

Activists or regime spies. Metro interviewed a representative of the elusive hacking network.

Baiazy estimates there are more than 5,000 members, with a high level of training and funding. / SCREENGRAB FROM SEA WEBSITE

From wiping $136 billion off the U.S. stock market to forcing spoof news site The Onion to turn serious, the Syrian Electronic Army are an emerging force in the conflict that has killed more than 70,000 people. The pro-regime hackers have attacked hundreds of high-profile targets from the BBC to FIFA chief Sepp Blatter, but little is known about the group.

"The central mission of the S.E.A. is to defend the Syrian nation against the vicious lying media campaign launched by more than half of the world," a spokesperson for the group told Metro.

Launched quietly in 2011 from a Facebook group, the S.E.A. has become an efficient network for creating chaos. Composed "mostly of students and youth, with members of the Syrian Arab Army," according to the source, the group also benefits from chapters in the U.S. and Europe. Boasting thousands of members, they have been able to dominate Web discourse of the conflict.

The S.E.A.'s growing power was shown by an April hack of the Associated Press Twitter feed, from which they announced "Breaking: Two Explosions in the White House and Barack Obama is injured," causing a nosedive in the Dow Jones stock index. "The best so far, but the attacks in the pipeline will be even better," said the spokesperson.

Quoted

"We have not attacked any website or social media account that has displayed neutrality when covering the war on Syria. Unfortunately, these are very few."

A spokesperson for the group

KIERON MONKS
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How close are they

The S.E.A. and the regime

Asked whether they supported President Bashar Assad's crackdown on protestors, the S.E.A. said they "could criticize specific actions, but whatever mistakes don't justify the animalism displayed by the opposition." They categorically denied receiving support from, or being close to, the regime.

This is disputed by experts. "I think the S.E.A. is close enough to the regime to be able to operate freely in a country that is known for its restrictive measures on Internet activities and information flow," said Helmi Noman, senior researcher at Citizen Lab who has studied the group since 2011. "The Syrian state TV has broadcast programs covering the activities of the S.E.A. S.E.A. members appeared in these programs. … So the group members are known and reachable to the Syrian media."

Syrian activist Amjad Baiazy, a former prisoner of the regime and researcher, goes further: "We know they are operating from Students' Union buildings, which are like a syndicate for the government. The regime relies on the S.E.A. for intelligence on opposition activists," he told Metro.

Dow Jones crash following Associated Press hack by S.E.A.

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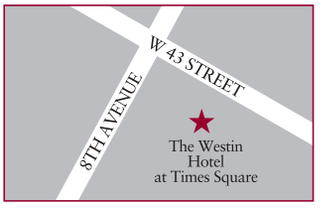

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There's blood on

The cost. Your clothing comes at a terrible human price. Western consumers, including those in the U.S., benefit from cheaper retail costs. But the tide may be turning.

The euphoria was understandable when rescuers pulled 19-year-old Reshma Begum alive from the wreckage of the Rana Plaza garment factory in Dhaka, Bangladesh last week. More than 1,127 were killed and thousands more injured when the factory fell on April 24. It had been 17 days since anyone had been found alive.

Even in a country where life expectancy is low, the devastating collapse sparked protests, with rioters calling for the owner of the factory to be hanged. The outrage was worldwide — and had previously been missing among Western observers and consumers about the working conditions in factories in Bangladesh. They have been deplorable for years while churning out cheap clothes for some of the West's best-known clothing brands.

Despite its small size, Bangladesh is the second-largest garment exporter in the world. The U.S. is its largest exporting partner, with 19.4 percent of exports coming to the States. Wal-Mart alone does more than $1 billion worth of manufacturing in the severely impoverished country.

But while everyone is quick to point at the labels that produce their clothing there — JCPenny, Gap, Sears and Zara, among thousands of others — Chris Rhomberg, associate professor of Sociology at Fordham University who specializes labor and labor movements, says it's a very complex and multi-layered situation.

"These labels don't actually own the factories in Bangladesh," he notes. "They contract the work out to contractors. But this is how the garment industry works: The contractor then contracts them out to subcontractors that are even cheaper and creates this enormous pressure on all the labels to go even cheaper."

Rhomberg and others in his field call this continual outsourcing and downward push of cost the "race to the bottom."

"Bottom" is an apt term. Since there is little to no direct oversight by these Western clothing brands, workers making these garments work in shockingly unsafe and unregulated factories. Many are forced to work seven days a week, are bullied into working overtime and the youngest of them — mainly young women, often as young as 10 — earn as little as $400 per year.

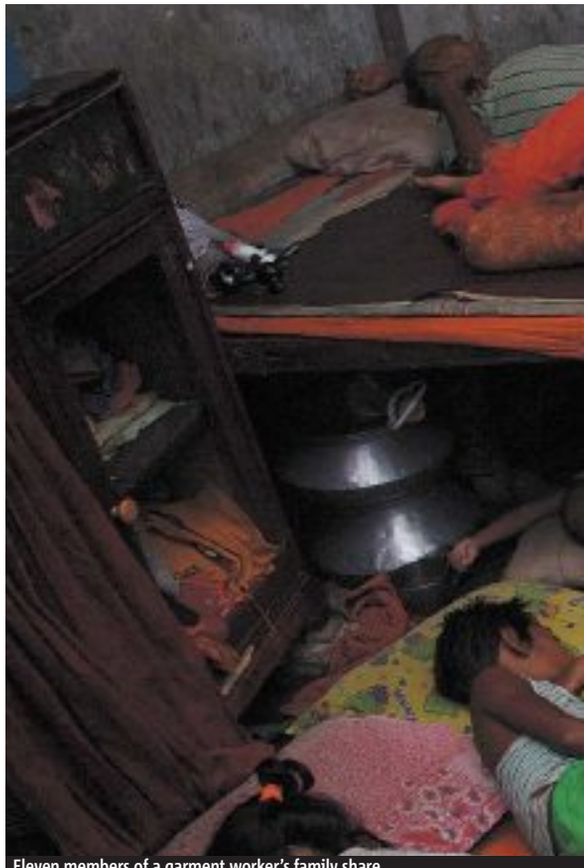
"No company is willing to spend the money for safety, adequate standards and wages if that makes their product more expensive than their competitors'," notes Rhomberg. "If you allow this race to the bottom to occur, there is pressure on each one to go cheaper."

And who is cheap? Women and children. Estimates vary, but up to 30,000 children are said to toil away in the sweatshops. The average age of the children is 13, of whom 10 percent, according to the U.S. Department of Labor, are married by the age of 10.

"In a recent visit to Bangladesh, a Department of Labor official spoke with children who … reported that, like adult workers, they are often paid two to four weeks late, and rarely paid extra for overtime," a USDL report stated.

Out of the 3.5 million people who work in Bangladesh factories, 85 percent of them are women. Although the principle of women working in this predominantly Muslim country has been accepted — largely for economic reasons — they still face paternalism, at best, and outright, blatant discrimination at worst, according to the European Union, which noted high levels of forced, early marriage and domestic abuse.

Corpses lay side by side in the morgue. / TASLIMA AKHTER



Eleven members of a garment worker's family share the same room to survive. / TASLIMA AKHTER

A young woman prepares for work in Dhaka, Bangladesh. / TASLIMA AKHTER

your labels

Eyewitness account.
Activist uses camera to illustrate horrors

The images that accompany this story were taken by Taslima Akhter, a Dhaka-based activist for the rights of women garment makers in Bangladesh and a talented photojournalist. It shows two workers, a man and a woman, locked in a final embrace in death. Akhter took the image shortly after the collapse of the garment factory on April 24.

She told Metro: "Sometimes owners and the government try to say that activists and workers are trying to make a conspiracy against industrialization — a common tactic when it comes to undermining workers' rights."

Quoted

"Sometimes owners and the government try to say that activists and workers are trying to make a conspiracy against industrialization — a common tactic when it comes to undermining workers' rights." Akhter

"But as an activist and photographer, I want to say that I, other activists, trade union activists and workers support the development of industrialization. We believe that without improving the conditions of workers through proper wages and safety standards, it cannot be possible. And it's not only our local issue, — it's an international issue, too, because buyers get products from our country at a very cheap rate and our labor has become the cheapest labor in the world. International buyers also do not really care about pay rates and safety standards. Through my photography for last five years, I am trying to campaign against low wage of workers and insecure working condition of workers."

Akhter, 39, works as a photography tutor at Pathsala University, Bangladesh. In 2011 she participated the summer course on human rights and photography at New York University.

Considering photography as a part of her activism, she works on gender-environmental-cultural issues and the issues of social discrimination.

This garment worker is unable to breastfeed her children. TASLIMA AKHTER

Due to employee agitation in some industries, factory workers are locked in this way by the authorities. / TASLIMA AKHTER

Empty tear gas canisters, sandals and puddles from a water cannon are all that remain after a conflict with workers. / TASLIMA AKHTER

By the numbers

Economy booming despite setbacks

Bangladesh's economy has grown by nearly 6 percent per year since 1996, despite, according to the CIA's summary of the country, "political instability, poor infrastructure, corruption, insufficient power supplies and slow implementation of economic reforms. Bangladesh remains a poor, overpopulated and inefficiently governed nation." The country's population is 90 percent Bengali Muslim. Per capita income is $2,000 dollars per year, making Bangladesh the world's 192nd poorest nation. By comparison, the average wealth per head in the U.S. is nearly $50,000.

But even with this global spotlight shining brightly on the working conditions in Bangladesh — and the international outcry almost overwhelming — change is still very hard to initiate.

There is immense international pressure for brands to sign the binding Fire and Building Safety Agreement, which protects garment workers. This five-year accord, which H&M and Zara signed this week, promises that they will not hire manufacturers and contractors whose clothing factories fail to meet safety standards; it will also commit them to paying for repairs and renovations.

The Bangladeshi government is acting as well — they are raising the minimum wage for workers and will make it easier for them to unionize. Still, the Gap, JCPenny and, most notably, Wal-Mart had refused to sign as of yesterday afternoon. Wal-Mart believes that their own safety plans are enough.

"Wal-Mart believes its safety plan meets or exceeds the IndustriALL proposal, and will get results more quickly," the company said in a statement.

A major U.S. retail trade group yesterday spoke out against a Bangladesh safety accord, saying that signing on would expose American companies to a legally questionable binding arbitration provision.

"The accord veers away from commonsense solutions and seeks to advance a narrow agenda driven by special interests," said Matthew Shay of the National Retail Federation.

Unionizers and labor activists worry that if these garment behemoths don't join the pact, the agreement will lack influence.

Still, H&M's decision to sign the accord is crucial, said Scott Nova, of Worker Rights Consortium, in Women's Wear Daily. "They are the single largest producer of apparel in Bangladesh, ahead even of Wal-Mart. This accord now has tremendous momentum." **TONY METCALF, WITH CONTRIBUTIONS FROM DOROTHY ROBINSON AND TINA CHADHA**

2

CULTURE

Twitter feed

We check in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

Today, Kristin Chenoweth has had enough of today, Ewan McGregor is being very vague, Garry Shandling is feeling limited and Dax Shepard is feeling conflicted about getting back to work.

@KChenoweth: Im awake. I wanna go back to sleep.

@mcgregor_ewan: It's a beautiful day. Busy and not. Exciting things on the horizon. And where I stand - is pretty lovely.

@GarryShandling: The photographer told me today that "head shots" are not in my acting range.

@daxshepard1: As happy as I am about the renewal, I was kinda looking forward to getting the Parenthood Movie funded on kick starter.

1 Giuliana Rancic is 'Sexiest Mom'

I don't know why Victoria's Secret naming Giuliana Rancic "Sexiest Mom" makes me feel weird. It's like they are just straight out saying, "Oh, hey, check out this MILF!" Barf. Also, look, I know she is a mom through and through. But she had her baby via a gestational carrier (not by choice, it should be noted). So it's not like she had to diet and exercise like a mad woman to get that "sexy" body back. Maybe it should come with an asterisk: Sexiest Mom (*Non-Stretch Marks Category). But maybe I'm way off-base here and reading way too much into this. Thoughts?

THE WORD

Dorothy Robinson takes on the world of gossip.

DOROTHY ROBINSON
@dorothyatmetro
dorothy.robinson@metro.us

2 Beyonce writes note to fans — by hand

Beyonce felt so bad about canceling a gig in Antwerp, Belgium — on doctor's orders because she was suffering from "dehydration and exhaustion" — that she posted a handwritten apology on her Tumblr. "To my dearest fans in Antwerp, I've never postponed a show in my life. It was very hard for me. I promise I will make it up very soon. I'm sorry if I disappointed you," Beyonce wrote. "Thank you for your concern. I'm feeling much better now, and I'm ready to give you a great show. See you tonight." The singer's health concerns almost immediately sparked rumors that she is pregnant with her second child.

3 Singer to be bronzed in nightclub

Amy Winehouse's parents have enlisted artist Scott Eaton to sculpt a life-size bronze statue of the late Amy Winehouse to be displayed at the London music venue The Roadhouse, which happens to be the last place she performed before her death, according to E! News. "It's not going to be ... cheesy. She's not with a microphone or anything like that. It's going to be kind of natural, if you will," the artist says.

4 Lohan doing 'fine' in rehab

Everyone! Are you concerned about Lindsay Lohan while she's in her 90-day rehab stint at Betty Ford? You shouldn't be! As the tabloids are reporting that after 10 days, she is "fine." Thank goodness. "She is doing well. She seems like she's finally adjusted," a source tells E! News. There was some uproar in the first week when she discovered Adderall wasn't allowed in the clinic. "She is just going to have to deal with it," says the source.

Between a rock and a hard place

Interview. Actresses Kate Aselton and Lake Bell discuss making the indie thriller "Black Rock."

Lake Bell, Kate Aselton and Kate Bosworth star in the indie thriller "Black Rock." / GETTY IMAGES

"The League" star Katie Aselton was looking for a change of pace for her second feature as a director, and boy did she find it. "My first film, 'The Freebie,' was a very quiet, intimate, emotional talkie-talkie movie that was all inside a very small Spanish bungalow, and I felt the need after that to get outside and move my body and maybe kill someone," she says. "It's just something I had to do, I don't know why."

That feeling led to "Black Rock," a thriller co-written by her husband, Mark Duplass, about three former childhood gal pals (Aselton, Lake Bell and Kate Bosworth) who reunite for a camping trip on a deserted Maine island that turns deadly after the arrival of some Afghanistan veterans on a hunting trip. As harrowing as the film's story is, the shoot itself turned out to be nearly as life-threatening. "It was a challenging film from start to finish," Aselton says. "It was not like 'The Freebie,' which we went into pre-lit, so we would literally plug in the plug and say, 'Let's start shooting.' This was very different. And honestly, the logline for the film — this fight for survival — became sort of a metaphor for our experience making the movie. We just needed to get out of the month of June alive, and the fact that we have a movie that I love to show for it is really exciting."

An all-outdoor shoot in rural Maine is not picnic, as she found out. "It was hands-down the most challenging shoot I could ever even conceive of. Every day it was a new challenge," Aselton says. "It rained when it was supposed to be sunny, it was sunny when it was supposed to rain. The fog would be so intense that you couldn't see where the characters were. The temperatures were super-low, the water is as cold as we claim it to be in the story — and colder. I almost killed Lake. Tides coming in and going out."

Wait, what was that about almost killing Lake Bell? As it turns out, a nighttime scene featuring swimming in the waters of Frenchman's Bay — frosty even in June — can be hazardous to an actress's health. "Lake literally almost died. She went into a 24-hour asthma attack with the cold temperatures," says Aselton. "It was really intense and really scary, so anything after that was a win because she was alive."

Another view

Lake Bell speaks

On the bright side, a near-death experience made some of the later challenges in the film — including brutal fight scenes — seem not so bad after all for Lake Bell. "Because we shot it chronologically, I think we were already sort of preparing ourselves for certain moments to attack, literally and emotionally," says Bell. "So I think that as soon as that cold, vulnerable, nude, very emotionally raw scene was on slate, it just became another thing to tackle. By that point we had already done the water stuff."

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10 Films out right now

Uhura (Zoe Saldana) and Spock (Zachary Quinto) are lovebirds in "Star Trek Into Darkness." / ZADE ROSENTHAL

1 'Star Trek Into Darkness'
In my day, no one but pointy-eared undateables and girls still into Walter Koenig cared about the new "Star Trek" picture. Now, a "Star Trek" movie is your only option for a new wide release this weekend. Also, Spock and Uhura are dating?

2 'Frances Ha'
"Greenberg"'s Greta Gerwig and Noah Baumbach team back up sans Ben Stiller for this grainy, black-and-white, vaguely French New Wave-inspired lark about a 20-something (Gerwig) languishing in 20-something hell after her bestie (Mickey Summer) finds a boy.

3 'Augustine'
The mono-named Soko is getting raves as a young 19th-century woman being treated by a noted neurologist (Vincent Lindon) after she starts suffering violent, near-orgiastic seizures.

4 'Black Rock'
Marrieds Kate Aselton and Mark Duplass, who play non-marrieds on "The League," go off on one of their precious indie larks, co-writing this no-budget horror-thriller about three women (Aselton, Lake Bell and Kate Bosworth) fighting for survival in remote Maine.

5 'Pieta'
If you don't know South Korean filmmaker Kim Ki-duk ("The Isle," "3 Iron"), he's the kind of director who would make a movie about a fraught mother-son relationship and name it after the Virgin Mary cradling Jesus.

6 'Escaped'
Aaron Eckhart headlines this international thriller about a former CIA agent whose identity is deleted, putting him on the run — with estranged daughter in tow — from scary men with guns. Olga Kurylenko co-stars.

7 'Hating Breitbart'
Horrible "media watchdog" Andrew Breitbart haunts from beyond the grave in this purely hagiographic, fanboy documentary about how everyone was mean to a guy who made people's lives pointlessly hellish (Anthony Weiner included).

8 'The Great Gatsby'
When you think F. Scott Fitzgerald, you of course imagine 3-D, digital special effects and Bryan Ferry versions of Jay-Z songs, yes? Leonardo DiCaprio, Carey Mulligan, Tobey Maguire and other well-cast actors struggle to stay afloat amid director Baz Luhrmann's time-warpy business.

9 'Peeples'
Tyler Perry's name may be on it, but that's his only contribution to this family comedy, starring Kerry Washington, Craig Robinson, David Alan Grier and Melvin Van Peebles as relatives at a Hamptons reunion.

10 'Sightseers'
Hot off the almost-cartoonishly grim "Kill List," director Ben Wheatley goes pitch-black comic with this tale of an English couple that cruises around the countryside, occasionally murdering innocent people for no reason.

MATT PRIGGE
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TV watch list

Ellie Kemper and Jenna Fischer celebrate "The Office" ending. / DAVE KOTINSKY, NBC

COMEDY

'The Office'

Well, this is bittersweet. "The Office" is finally ending. And while it jumped that proverbial shark long ago, we still love it and wouldn't miss this final episode. (Shout out to the U.K. "Office," though.)

SERIES FINALE, 10 P.M., NBC

COMEDY

'The Big Bang Theory'

Are we the only ones who don't get all the hype with this show? Ah well, now that we finally met "Your Mother" we'll need something to fill our airspace. In the season finale, Leonard gets a job offer overseas and the other nerds freak out. But it will all work out.

SEASON FINALE, 8 P.M., CBS

REALITY

'American Idol'

Yet another "Idol" is crowned, sealing her fate of indentured singer servitude to the 'Idol' machine as a pop star we will never ever hear from again. (Kelly Clarkson and Carrie Underwood were flukes.) Remember Lee DeWyze? Yeah, that's what we thought.

SEASON FINALE, 8 P.M., FOX

DRAMA

'Beauty and the Beast'

In the season finale of one more CW show we didn't even know existed, secrets about the Beauty (that chick from "Smallville" — you may know her as that girl who banged Matt Damon in "Eurotrip") are revealed.

SEASON FINALE, 9 P.M., CW

REALITY

'Yardcore'

We like the name of this show about some people who turn other people's ugly backyards into less ugly ones. **10 P.M., DIY**

ALEXANDRA CAVALLO

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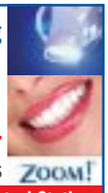

Cannes: it's pronounced (roughly) 'can,' not 'Khan'

Film festivals. The Cannes Film Festival starts up, bearing Coens, Hermione and The Gosling.

Oscar Isaac plays a difficult, brooding folk singer in the Coen Brothers' "Inside Llewyn Davis." / ALISON ROSA

Hollywood is making its annual pilgrimage to the French Riviera for the Cannes International Film Festival, possibly the most prestigious stop in the film festival calendar. Here are our picks for the films to watch out for debuting at Cannes this month.

'The Bling Ring'
This may turn out to be the guiltiest pleasure of the year, but we can't contain our excitement over it. Sofia Coppola takes on the true-life tale of the fame-hungry young socialites who used Twitter and Facebook to time break-ins at the homes of celebrities and make off with their loot, becoming famous themselves in the process, even if it was for all the wrong reasons. The film's gang is led by "Harry Potter" star Emma Watson — completely unrecognizable from her Hogwarts days.

'Inside Llewyn Davis'
Festival favorites the Coen Brothers return with their hotly anticipated latest, set in the 1960s Greenwich Village folk scene. The film features John Goodman, Carey Mulligan, Justin Timberlake and Oscar Isaac as the titular, troubled troubadour. The soundtrack alone should be enough to impress.

'Nebraska'
Alexander Payne offers up a father-and-son road trip story shot in black and

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Emma Watson, center, sheds her Hermione duds to lead a posse of girls who rob celebrities in Sofia Coppola's "The Bling Ring." / A24

white, as Bruce Dern and Will Forte strike out in search of lottery winnings. While Payne has charmed before with "Sideways," "Election" and "The Descendants," the casting of "Saturday Night Live" and "30 Rock" alum Forte in a more dramatic role is what's really piquing curiosity here.

'Only God Forgives'
If this one isn't awesome, we're giving up hope in humanity. Nicolas Winding Refn re-teams with his "Drive" star and kindred spirit, Ryan Gosling, for a pulpy, violent revenge drama. As a bonus, Kristin Scott Thomas goes bad as Gosling's crime-lord mother. Bring it on.

'Only Lovers Left Alive'
This one may be a bit of a long shot, but it sounds simply too bizarre not to check out: Longtime indie film darling Jim Jarmusch takes on the vampire film genre with an impressive art-house cast led by Tom Hiddleston and Tilda Swinton as vampires in a centuries-long romance named Adam and Eve. Oh, and Adam is a moody, club-dwelling musician. Even if this one is bad, it will still be worth checking out.

'The Immigrant'
Talented director James Gray reteams with his "We Own the Night" and "Two Lovers" star Joaquin Phoenix for this period drama, set in 1920s Manhattan, playing a man who forces a Polish emigre (Marion Cotillard) into prostitution. Co-starring Jeremy Renner as "Orlando the Magician."

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Hubbard dances an ode to Chicago

Dance. Hubbard Street Dance Chicago hits New York, in celebration of its 35th year.

"Three to Max" is part of Hubbard's repertoire, showing through May 26. / TODD ROSENBERG

Hubbard Street Dance Chicago's artistic director Glenn Edgerton, who spent years with the Joffrey Ballet and Nederlands Dans Theater, draws on a broad acquaintance with international choreographers' collection of relatively new works. The performers give their all: Complex pieces to collage scores display both in-house and imported artistry.

Canadian Aszure Barton's "Untouched," made in collaboration with the dancers, opens the first program. Women in soft, jewel-toned gowns and socks partner with guys in casual gear, their sleeves rolled up, ready to rock. Are the ladies consorting with the chauffeurs, as in "Downton Abbey"? The men, marvelously limber, spin and wriggle and somersault on a stage draped with red velvet.

Perhaps people in Chicago have a different metabolism than New Yorkers; all the dances go on too long. Bare flesh, or bodies in pale unitards, carry the day, often frustratingly obscured by dim lighting. This Hubbard Street season features dances by Israeli choreographers; "Too Beaucoup," Sharon Eyal and Gai Behar's vast machine for 16 androids in white wigs, unisex bodysuits and contact lenses, seems to go on forever, wearing out its welcome about 15 minutes before it finally grinds to a halt.

Program B, which alternates with this one over a two-week run, consists of "Three to Max," a collage work by Eyal's mentor Ohad Naharin, the dean of Israeli dance makers, and another fusion piece, "Casi-Casa," made by Swedish superstar Mats Ek.

The novelty of "Too Beaucoup" wears off too soon. / TODD ROSENBERG

"Untouched" / TODD ROSENBERG

If you go

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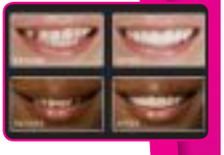

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You can call rapper French Montana the 'Shot Caller'

Hip-hop. New York MC pulls in some ringers for his debut. He asks, "Wouldn't you?"

French Montana's new album drops on Tuesday. He'll be all around New York next week, including at an acoustic performance at Best Buy in Union Square. Visit www.frenchmontanamusic.com for details. / GETTY IMAGES

For French Montana, having one of the most anticipated hip-hop albums of the year was all part of the plan. Starting out with his own series of DVDs, the Moroccan-born, Bronx-bred rapper mixed artist interviews from the heavyweights in the game to garner attention for his own music. And it worked. That street buzz, along with a heavy Internet presence (and a couple of hits like "Shot Caller" and "Pop That") made him one of the most sought after MCs. It was also enough for both Diddy and Rick Ross to sign on to executive produce his debut album, "Excuse My French," which comes out on Tuesday. Montana counts himself lucky to have such mentors, especially since he believes it's good business built on great relationships.

"If you could have Michael Jordan and Pat Riley coach you, why wouldn't you?" he explains. "Puff is like No. 1 in the Forbes [Magazine list]. Guys like him and Ross don't move for money. They have to have love for you. That's all I wanted: someone that had love and cares about my music as much as I care about it."

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The love for French doesn't end with Ross and Diddy.

The featured lineup for "Excuse My French" is filled with the genre's A-List. Snoop, Lil Wayne, Ne-Yo, Drake, Nicki Minaj, The Weeknd and Scarface all make appearances. But why are hip-hop's hit makers coming out for somebody who had a rep as a troublemaker when he first entered the industry? Montana says the answer is simple.

"I just want to do things to get my mind off the negativity," he says. "I just want to make music and have fun and be around positive people. I feel like they see them [in me] when they were on the come-up."

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Beyond meatballs and lingonberries

Hot chef. Marcus Jernmark is redefining Nordic cuisine at Aquavit.

How busy is Aquavit chef Marcus Jernmark these days? So busy that we caught him during "the rush between lunch and dinner," as he puts it. Indeed, Scandinavian food has exploded all over the city in recent years. Jernmark grew up in Sweden and in 2009, joined Aquavit. Under his hand, Aquavit has received a Michelin star. We spoke with the chef about his time in and out of the kitchen.

What are the hallmarks of Scandinavian cuisine?
A lot of people have recognized Nordic food through foraged food, but there's also kinds of other culture in Nordic countries. Then, when it comes to the techniques, [we are using] modern culinary ideas and looking at our old, traditional way of cooking. We're thinking that old is the new new, and trying to develop that in a modern way. I think that has made our cuisine very interesting and recognized. …
I'm doing something very specific here at Aquavit and there's a lot of restaurants that are very specific, but the average person in Sweden might still think that Swedish cuisine is a lot of gravlax. It's just [like how you hear] American cuisine is a lot of burgers. But if you would ask a chef at Atera, you wouldn't say American food is about burgers — you would say that American food is about our surroundings.

When did you notice Scandinavian food getting popular?
I was in Scandinavia in 2003-2004, working in Sweden, when all the communities started to write the New Nordic Food Manifesto. We explained what Nordic food is to the world. Sweden has 9 million people, and that's the biggest country in the Nordic countries. In the world we're really small, but all together we're 20 million-something, so what we said was that we have the same culinary heritage — if we could just create the same message then we're gonna be recognized. And the first one that recognized us was Chef Rene Redzepi, when he was top of world cuisine at elBulli in Spain. Now he is the founder/head chef at NOMA [another famous Nordic restaurant] in Copehnhagen. So when I started there was already a big, big movement. I think we will see an even greater trend next year, and then it will start to trickle down.

When not in the kitchen at Aquavit (65 E. 55th St., 212-307-7311), Jernmark likes to pan-sear fresh arctic char and serve it with new potatoes, horseradish, dill and brown butter. / JONATHAN HOKKLO

Q&A

How do you like to unwind?
We have Sunday closed, and it's really beautiful to have that. That's my day where I try to take it easy. I have my daughter in town, so I'm taking her to the zoo and hanging out with her. It doesn't matter how stressed things are and how much you have on your mind — once you have the responsibility of a 2-year-old, you don't think about anything else. [Laughs]

At Aquavit, you took the reigns from another famous Marcus, Marcus Samuelsson. Did he give you any advice?
We never really met at that point — we met later on. … When I joined Aquavit, Aquvait was approximately a 22-year-old restaurant, so a lot of those things were developed with and under Marcus' era. For me the most important thing when I came in was to emphasize all the good things and make those even better, and remove all the things that have been kinda just sticking around.

What are you excited about on your menu these days?
We are grilling lettuces now, gem lettuce. That's really, really beautiful. We have a lot of golden tile fish and watercress in house now that we're working with, veal, we have a spring lamb, white asparagus — [that's] one of the best-sellers. We serve that with smoked trout roe and smoked beets.

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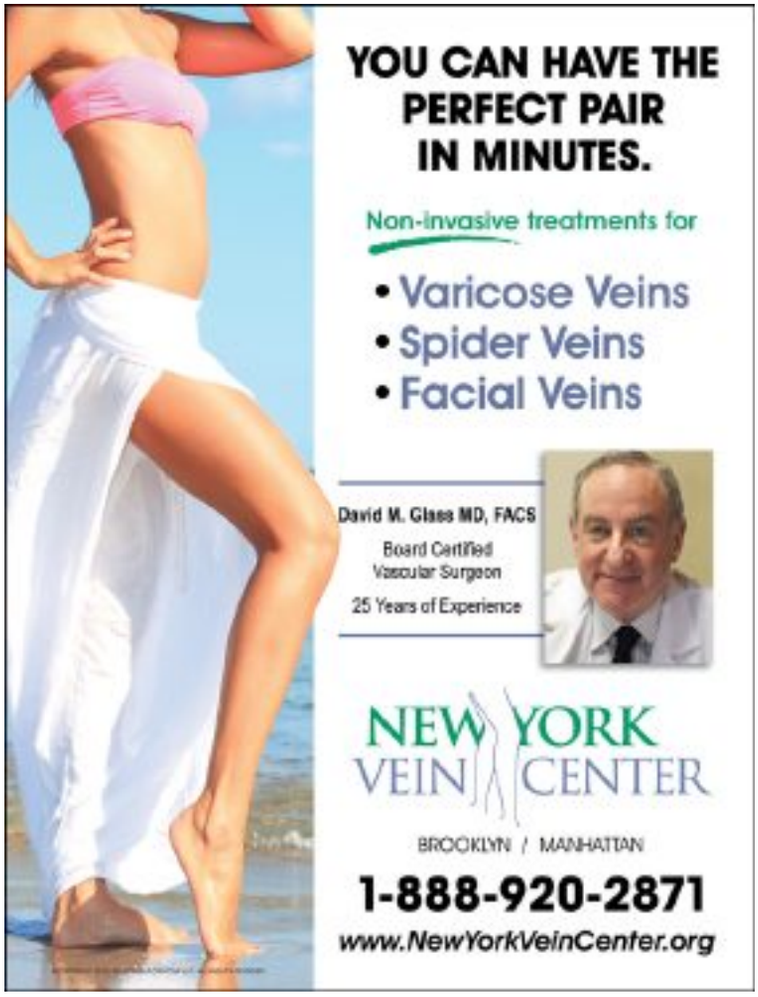

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News and notes

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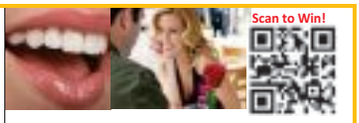

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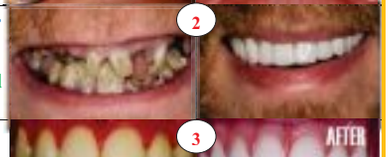

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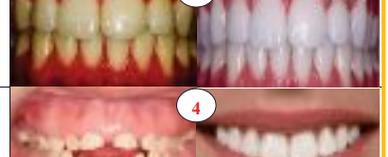

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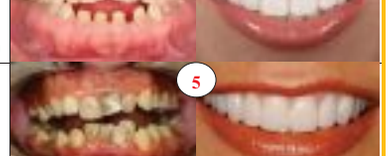

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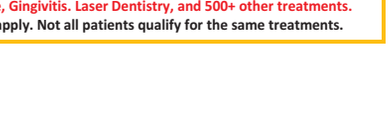

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Re-create some classic movie scenes at these eateries

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Dining. Your favorite restaurant may have served as the backdrop for your favorite film.

'The Devil Wears Prada'

(2006)
Craft Restaurant, 43 E. 19th St., 212-780-0880
Andy has dinner at the Tom Colicchio restaurant with her father, who expresses concerns about her career/living situation, and she gets an emergency call from her overbearing boss, Miranda. If you go to sample the star chef's greenmarket fare, hopefully your boss doesn't interrupt.

'The Muppets Take Manhattan'

(1984)
Sardi's, 234 W. 44th St. 212-221-8440
Sardi's has been a favorite in the city for the past 90 years, so much so that the Italian restaurant managed to snag a central role in "The Muppets Take Manhattan." Who could forget the scene where Kermit replaces Liza Minelli's picture with his own green face, much to her own chagrin? You can enjoy a piece of childhood nostalgia by visiting Sardi's for classic dishes like steak tartar and cannelloni au gratin.

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We'll list our favorite gifts and ideas for celebrating all dads.
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June 21st
Metro's seasonal section featuring dance, music and performing arts.
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and Bud did in "Wall Street."

'Saturday Night Fever'

(1977)
Lenny's Pizza
1969 86th St., Brooklyn, 718-946-1292
There's always been a debate as to where you can find the best New York pizza, and it looks like Lenny's Pizza might have a leg up on the competition after gaining national exposure in the classic disco film. The way Tony chows down on two slices as he strolls on 86th Street makes it hard to imagine there's a better tasting pizza in the city. You can still relive your memories from the '70s at Lenny's in Bensonhurst.

'Friends With Benefits'

(2011)
Pershing Square Cafe, 90 E. 42nd St., 212-286-9600
Jaime and Dylan agree to "start over" with their relationship at this East side-meets-West side eatery, parked right across from Grand Central, which boasts "the busiest and best breakfast in New York."

'Wall Street'

(1987)
'21' Club, 21 W. 52nd St., 212-582-7200
The '21' Club, where greedy moneygrubber Gordon Gekko and his apprentice Bud Fox would meet in "Wall Street," once functioned as a prohibition-era speakeasy. Visit for true meat-and-potato dishes — before you know it, you'll be discussing some of the finer things in life.

'You've Got Mail'

(1998)
Cafe Lalo, 201 W. 83rd St., 212-496-6031
Satisfy your sweet tooth at this Upper West Side coffee shop and dessert bar. The self-proclaimed "most famous cafe in NYC" was featured as the backdrop for a chance meeting between Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan's characters. Open till the wee hours of the morning, the European decor and quiet ambiance make a perfect setting for a first date.

"You've Got Mail" starred Meg Ryan, Tom Hanks and Cafe Lalo.

At Katz's, the table where Meg Ryan and Billy Crystal sat has a sign that says, "Where Harry met Sally ... hope you have what she had!"

The classic

We hear the food's orgasmic

When Harry Met Sally... (1989)
Katz's Delicatessen
205 E. Houston St., 212-254-2246
Houston Street eatery Katz's Deli has been a favorite of native New Yorkers for since the early 20th century, but it wasn't until 1989 that the rest of the world caught a glimpse at the revered restaurant for the first time. A classic in every sense of the word, Katz's has a wide selection of traditional diner favorites from burgers to pastrami sandwiches. If you're ever wondering what to order, just look to the table next to you and say, "I'll have what she's having."

BRIA MARIETTE
letters@metro.us

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Metro's Ultimate Going Out Guide

GoogaMooga makes its "Great" return this weekend in Prospect Park. / ADAM MACCHIA

Food and Drink

The Great GoogaMooga
Tomorrow through Sunday, Prospect Park, Brooklyn, free
Calling all foodies: Your favorite day of the year is back! Prospect Park plays host to another Great GoogaMooga with more than 85 foodmakers, breweries galore, tons of wineries, all your favorite restaurants doing pop-ups, the Yeah Yeah Yeahs and Flaming Lips playing and so much more.

Speed Rack National Finals
Tonight, 6, Element, 225 E. Houston St., $30
Tonight, the question of who is the greatest female bartender in the country will finally be answered, as bartenders from across the U.S. pour 'em out to lay claim to the title — and also to help raise money for breast cancer awareness.

Save the Daiquiri!
Tomorrow, 6 p.m., Union Square Wines & Spirits, 140 Fourth Ave., free
You've drunk daiquiris, but do you know how to truly make the amazing frozen cocktail? The folks from Venezuela's oldest rum producer, Santa Teresa, want to help you do summer the right way by helping you rethink this warm weather staple.

Brooklyn Lit Crawl
Saturday, 5 p.m., A Public Space, 323 Dean St., Brooklyn, free
Want to drink a bunch and listen to some of the best writers in all of New York read their works? The Brooklyn Lit Crawl starts out at A Public Space, and then stretches out through several bars, with some of the best literary organizations setting up the events.

Hawaiian Underground
Saturday, 4 p.m., Roberta's, 261 Moore St., Brooklyn, $95
You never think there's a reason to make it out to Bushwick until Roberta's lures you back with its pizza and wild theme parties, like this Hawaiian-style pig roast that brings some of the best chefs in the city out to one of NYC's best restaurants.

Swig 'n' Swine
Sunday, 12 p.m., Union Pool, 484 Union Ave., Brooklyn, $30
Part of the Manhattan Cocktail Classic, stop by Union Pool for a day of pig and liquored-up punch, with all the money raised going to charity. You get to hang with some of the world's leading cocktail enthusiasts eating delicious pig. It's tough to go wrong here.

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Music

An Evening with Black Francis

Tomorrow, 8 p.m., Symphony Space, 2537 Broadway, $45
The man behind one of the most important bands of the last 30 years, the Pixies, takes the trip uptown for an evening where he will play songs both old and new, and probably a few from the band that made him famous as well.

TIM MOSENFELDER, GETTY IMAGES

Music

Charles Bradley
Tonight, 8, Apollo Theater, 253 W. 125th St., $32
There are soul legends, and then there are the greats that you've never heard of. Charles Bradley could have remained firmly in the latter camp, but thanks the folks at Daptone, his 2011 debut album, "No Time for Dreaming," made a star out of the energetic 64-year-old.

Angel Olsen
Sunday, 8:30 p.m. Glasslands Gallery, 289 Kent Ave., Brooklyn, $12
Fans of lovely acoustic indie singer/songwriter stuff: Angel Olsen should be your new favorite thing to listen to. The Chicago-based Olsen channels both Sharon Van Etten and Bonnie "Prince" Billy, and will mesmerize you live tonight at Glasslands with her voice and beautiful guitar pickings.

Talks

The Interview Show
Tonight, 8, Union Hall, 702 Union St., Brooklyn, $8
This normally Chicago-based show is exactly what the title implies: Mark Bazer will talk with author Sam Lipsyte, punk legend Kathleen Hanna and New Yorker television critic Emily Nussbaum one-on-one about their given fields, live in front of a Union Hall audience.

METRO

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Have you got an upcoming event that you want to let Metro readers know about? Send us an email at nycevents@metro.us and we'll get it onto our brand new listings website.

Peter Som makes Anthropologie even prettier

Shopping. The designer debuts his capsule collection, perfect for summer.

Brands like Target and H&M roll out a new designer collaboration each season, and we're pretty numb to them these days. But Anthropologie's latest high/low dalliance has our inner bargain-hunter's heartbeat racing. On Thursday, the ladylike brand will debut a limited-edition collection with New York-based designer Peter Som — known for his elegant and print-happy womenswear — as part of its Made in Kind initiative. The union makes perfect sense, since both brands exude a bohemian-yet-refined aesthetic.

"We share a similar love of color, pattern and embellishment," says Som of the partnership. "I've been able to play with many of my signature prints and silhouettes in a new and fun way."

This translates to bold florals on flirty dresses and whimsical zebra heads on breezy frocks. The 11-piece line, which channels eclectic icons such as Peggy Guggenheim and Diana Vreeland, ranges in price from $128 to $368.

You can stop stressing about what to wear to all those summer weddings now.

TINA CHADHA
tina.chadha@metro.us

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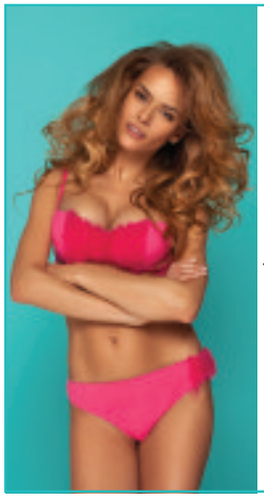

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Amber Madison is a Manhattan-based relationship expert and dating coach. She is the author of "Are All Guys Assholes?" for which she traveled the country, spoke to over 1,000 men and discovered that the answer to this question is no. You can follow her on Twitter: @ambermadi.

YOU'RE BETTER THAN THAT: FIRST DATE DON'TS

Escape the dinner table and find an activity to make a first date less awkward. / GETTY IMAGES

Don't go out to dinner.

First of all, if you're a guy this can start to add up fast. But more than that, dinner is a high-pressure situation where you're forced to keep up the conversation because there are no other distractions. This doesn't exactly lend itself to putting your best foot forward. Instead of dinner — or even drinks — plan an activity date.

Don't talk only (or mostly) about yourself.

So you've traveled to every continent, you do something really important or prestigious and have a bunch of funny stories exhibiting your killer one-liners. The problem is, no one likes to be talked at — even if it's really impressive. There can be a rush to get out all of the positive things about yourself on the first date to try to keep the other person interested. But if you're so concerned about how you're coming across, you're not actually connecting with the other person … which, you know, is sort of what the date is about.

Don't ask job interview questions.

The things we talk about on a first date usually have to do with where you grew up, went to school or what you do for a living — all things that are painful to talk about repeatedly and don't actually get to the crux of who a person is. If you want your first date to be fun and stand out, ask things along the lines of: What is the creepiest thing you've ever done? Or: What's the closest you've come to getting arrested? Have discussions about getting along with siblings or parents, what you think makes a good movie or whether brunch is awesome or just overpriced breakfast. Really have a conversation, don't just take turns reciting your résumés.

Tip

Don't be difficult to pin down.

If your next free night is three weeks from this Tuesday, maybe this isn't the best time in your life to start dating someone.

Dont pop the question

So the date went well? Awesome. But don't let your fantasies get the best of you and convince yourself that this is The One. The truth is, after one date — even a great one — you just don't know someone that well yet. So stay open-minded to both the good qualities and the bad instead of painting a full picture of a person you just met based on your very limited information.

VII-SAD-1

Are You Shy

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- Is it difficult for you to eat, drink, or write while others may be watching you?

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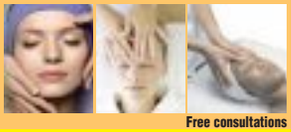

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Horoscope

♉ Taurus | April 21 - May 21. You might get a surprising opportunity to make a welcome change. Act quickly, however; the chance won't come again.

♊ Gemini | May 22 - June 20. You could hear from a friend regarding an idea that he or she has been toying with for some time. It could be what you need.

♋ Cancer | June 21 - July 22. Although Lady Luck might help you meet a financial or career goal, she won't put up with dilly-dallying. You must move immediately.

♌ Leo | July 23 - Aug. 22. A commercial arrangement isn't likely to be conducted along conventional lines, but it still could turn out to be profitable.

♍ Virgo | Aug. 23 - Sept. 22. You have your own unique way of handling something, and you shouldn't have to feel bad about it. Don't let the naysayers out there get you down.

♎ Libra | Sept. 23 - Oct. 22. You'll get a chance to team up with someone new. The partnership could result in some unusual benefits.

♏ Scorpio | Oct. 23 - Nov. 21. If you've been stymied by delays on an important project, don't hesitate to discard old methods. Try something new.

♐ Sagittarius | Nov. 22 - Dec. 21. Try to keep your calendar as unstructured as possible. An exciting development is likely.

♑ Capricorn | Dec. 22 - Jan 20. An upturn in your financial affairs could suddenly and unexpectedly occur. This shift is likely to prove helpful in more ways than one.

♒ Aquarius | Jan. 21 - Feb 18. You're likely to be better equipped to handle abstract situations than concrete ones. Focus on the best possibilities.

♓ Pisces | Feb. 19 - March 20. The possibility of generating substantial returns from your usual source of income is good.

♈ Aries | March 21 - April 20. A pleasant surprise is in the offing concerning a unique social opportunity. If you want to take advantage of it, however, you must respond. BERNICE BEDE OSOL

Sudoku: Easy and hard

			3	6		7	1	
		9	5			8		
2			4		9			
6			7		4			
	7	5		3		9	2	
			9		8			5
			2		5			3
		4			1	2		
	2	1		7	3			

2					5		3	8
	5	6		8			7	
1		4	3					
	3		7			2		
	6						1	
		2			3		5	
					1	7		9
	2			3		1	6	
6	1		9					3

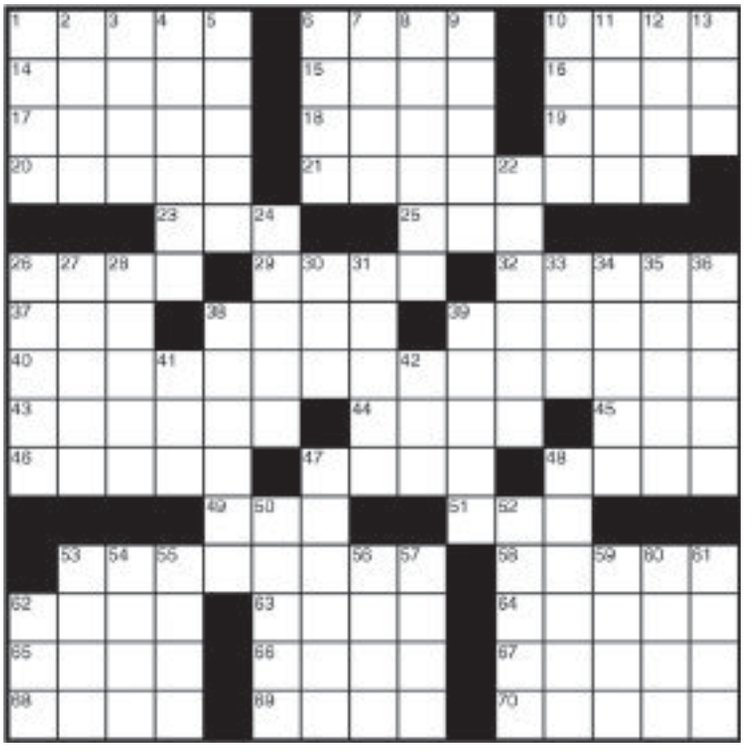
How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Crossword

Across
1 Teen bane
6 MacDonald's place
10 Skiing mecca
14 Kitchen gadget
15 "En garde" weapon
16 First-aid plant
17 Get the lead out?
18 Kind of prof.
19 Swing around
20 Auctions off
21 Knights' contests
23 Devotee's suffix
25 Cattle call
26 Track event
29 Good conductor
32 Hearth goddess
37 It may be fragile
38 Type measure
39 — and yon
40 Gets results (4 wds.)
43 Trying experience
44 Ocean flier
45 Game or season opener
46 Twangy-sounding
47 Inventory wd.
48 Cater for
49 Electrical unit
51 Meet, in poker
53 Dwell temporarily
58 Galley rowerh
62 Ties up the phone
63 Stag attender
64 Where Lhasa is
65 Vogue rival
66 Leaning Tower town
67 Russian bay or lake
68 Garden hopper
69 Con game
70 Sachet component

Down
1 Powerful primates
2 Have the nerve
3 Eurasian range
4 Gore or Nielsen
5 Lock or curl
6 Great achievement
7 Lhasa —
8 Job hunter's need
9 Subway in Paris
10 Ming thing
11 Pact member
12 Debtors' notes
13 Jamie – Curtis
22 Beginner
24 Gabardine, e.g.
26 Captured again
27 Aesop's market
28 Parachute parts
30 Here, in Paris
31 Did a lawn chore
33 Afr. nation
34 Physical condition
35 Pomme de — (potato)
36 — to the teeth
38 Choir selections
39 Jockey rival
41 Green parrot
42 Pause fillers
47 Stained-glass art
48 Catty?
50 Rope fibers
52 Bar legally
53 Luminous circle
54 Kan. neighbor
55 Bought at a yard sale
56 Rick's old flame
57 Ball club
59 Help with a heist
60 Star in Lyra
61 Footnote abbr. (2 wds.)
62 Even so

Yesterday's answer



Letters

Pope asked forgiveness

Re: "Catholic naming of saints is rife with hypocrisy" (Metro, May 14) Perhaps letter writer I. Milton Karabell missed Pope John Paul II's historic apology during the Jubilee Year 2000: "I ask that in this year of mercy, the Church, ... kneels before God and begs for forgiveness for past and present sins of her sons. ... We cannot not recognize the betrayals of the Gospel committed by some of our brothers, especially during the second millennium. We ask forgiveness for ... the use of violence that some have resorted to in the service of truth and for the acts of dissidence and of hostility sometimes taken towards followers of other religions." GILBERT COLON, VIA E-MAIL

Metro ... the final frontier for spoilers

Re: "'Star Trek' into dumbness" (Metro, May 15) Does Sean Burns know how to write a movie review? Generally, it should not include massive spoilers detailing every plot point from beginning to end. I read the entire thing thinking that perhaps he would offer some useful opinion as to why this new installment was "dumb," but instead all I got were spoilers. KIMBERLY PINZON, VIA E-MAIL

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Keep them a brief as possible, preferably under 100 words. Metro reserves the right to edit all letters. Please include your name and contact info.

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3 SPORTS

Online

Trending online at Metro.us

1 Yankees-Mariners highlights from last night's game

2 Yankees notes: Why has Shawn Kelley been so good?

3 Rangers notes: Derek Dorsett finding his role

One QB down

Garrard walks away from Jets, football

The Jets' competition at quarterback has been thinned out before the pads were even put on.

NFL.com reported yesterday that 10-year NFL quarterback David Garrard has retired due to a knee injury.

"Having to call it quits," Garrard texted Sirius XM's Adam Schein. "My knee is not holding up."

The Jets signed Garrard in March to provide competition for last year's starter Mark Sanchez, but he came as a risk given his history. Garrard has not thrown a pass since 2010.

Wednesday's retirement may have preempted the obvious, one member of Jets management told Metro New York.

"Nothing really changed with today's news. I think it was Mark and Geno [Smith] at the top, then everyone else," the source said. "David never really looked comfortable throwing either, so the chance of him being here come Week 1? Rather slim."

KRISTIAN DYER

Woodson unlikely to make lineup changes

NBA playoffs.
The Knicks face a must-win tonight at home to extend their season.

J.R. Smith, who is a free agent after the season, could be playing in his final game as a Knick tonight (8, TNT). / GETTY IMAGES

Knicks head coach Mike Woodson is fiercely loyal, which may be why he finds his team down 3-1 to the Pacers.

Woodson, a coach veterans love playing for, is banking on his aging squad to reward his faith in them by finally knocking down the open shots they made prior to this series. Woodson said, following yesterday's practice, that he has no plans to tinker with his rotation.

"I will never kick J-Kidd to the curb," Woodson said of Jason Kidd, who has yet to even score this series. "Kidd has been a positive for our club, our franchise and these players that play around him. We all still believe in Kidd."

The coach allowed that going big by starting Kenyon Martin over Pablo Prigioni in Game 4 ended up backfiring.

Woodson agreed that the guys were loose during their morning session yesterday, crediting a veteran team that never seems to panic.

"I'm very curious, because our backs are against the wall. It's a must-win that we have to get tomorrow night. We haven't had our backs against the wall too much this season, so we're being tested," Woodson said yesterday. "But I feel good about going into tomorrow's game. And if we win tomorrow night, it'll put us in position [to extend] this series — first thing, though, tomorrow is a must-win game."

Quoted

"I embrace the challenge. It's one game at a time, but it's been done before, so we just have to win."

Iman Shumpert, Knicks guard
On coming back from down 3-1

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Outdoor hockey

Yankee Stadium, old or new, has never hosted an NHL game. / MLB PHOTOS, GETTY IMAGES

Yankee Stadium to host two NHL games

The NHL's worst-kept secret was announced officially yesterday as Yankee Stadium will be hosting two outdoor hockey games next year.

The Rangers and Devils will meet Jan. 26 at 12:30 p.m. as an appetizer for the Super Bowl one week later at MetLife Stadium — the home of the Giants and Jets. It will officially be a Devils home game, as the Rangers did not want to lose out on a home game at MSG.

Three days later, the Islanders will host the Rangers at 7:30 p.m. on the same Yankee Stadium ice.

"The innovative nature of the Stadium Series affords the opportunity to have all three NHL teams in the New York-New Jersey metropolitan area play, outdoors, at one of the most-celebrated stadiums in the world," NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman said in a statement yesterday.

The 2014 Winter Classic will be held on New Year's Day between Detroit and Toronto.

MARK OSBORNE

Rangers, Bruins kick off 'physical' semifinal

Darroll Powe found out the hard way how physical Adam McQuaid and the Bruins can be. / GETTY IMAGES

NHL playoffs. The Rangers feel they played their best game last time out.

Dan Girardi summed up the impending Rangers-Bruins Eastern Conference semifinal series with one word: physical.

"It's definitely going to be physical for sure," Dan Girardi said following a spirited practice at the Rangers' training facility in Greenburgh, N.Y., yesterday in preparation for the best-of-seven series which begins tonight (7:30 p.m., NBC Sports) in Boston.

This will be the 10th time the Original Six brethren have met in the playoffs. The Rangers have lost six of the nine series, but the last meeting was way back in 1973.

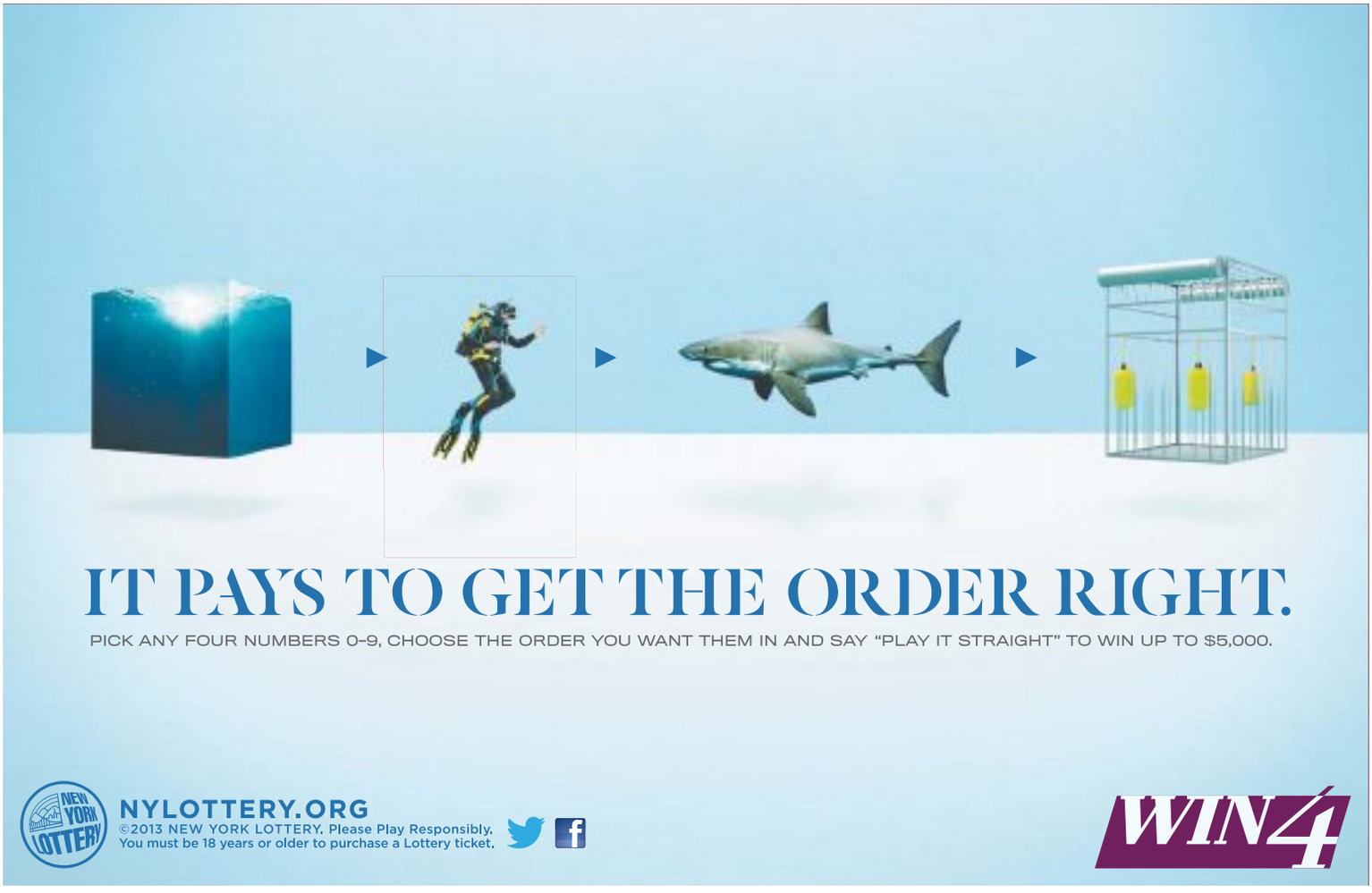
The Rangers won two of the three regular-season matchups between the long time rivals, including a 4-3 shootout win in Boston on Feb. 12, the last time the teams met.

"[We played] them three times in the first couple weeks and that's pretty much it," Girardi said.

Like the Bruins, the Rangers have size. Since acquiring Ryane Clowe, Derick Brassard, Derek Dorsett and John Moore the Rangers are 13-7.

"We're able to play the way we want to play more consistently because I think we have a deeper lineup," head coach John Tortorella said. "I think we played our best game of the seven-game series in Game 7. I'm hoping that transfers over to the start of the [Bruins] series."

DENIS GORMAN
sports@metro.us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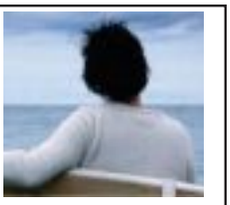

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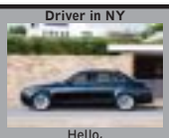

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Homes

CAMBRIA HEIGHTS. 1fam. Det. Brick. 4bed. 2Ba. EIK. Low Down. Any Cred. Owner Rep. $180K. 347-499-2599

CANARSIE★Corner Def Newly Renov 1 Fam, 3 Bdrm, 3 Bth, 40x100 lot, Fin Bsmt, 2 Car Gar, 2 blks to Sbwy, $399K neg. Owner 347-341-2804

★CYPRESS HILLS OPEN HOUSE★
Sun., 12-4pm; 70 Highland Pl. 2 fam, fully renov. w/fin bsmt, new roof, 3/3 br + 4 full ba. $520K. Bkr 718-964-3877

EAST FLATBUSH-OPEN HOUSE
Sun, 12-4pm 538 E. 48th St. Nice start-up 1 fam. house. Priced to sell. Won't last! $299K★Broker 718-964-3877

Woodhaven $210,000
2 family house 3/3 driveway fully finish bsmt 2 full baths 718-300-7057 Ask for Maybell Hablamos Espanol

Homes

HEMPSTEAD; OPEN HOUSE
Sat. 5/18; 4-6 P.M. 23 Pierson Ave. Cor. property; 3 BR, 1.5 bath. FDR, $255k. Agent Dean 718-723-0047

Real Estate/Rent

Apartments

834 E. 218th St★New Lge 2Br, 2 Full Ba, 1100sf, New Appls, Wd flrs. Nr #2 train/Xpress bus. $1600/mo. Pay own Util. Refs/Cradt ck. Owner 917-449-2930

Bainbridge/All Bronx Stu fr. $765, 1 Br fr. $900, 2 Br's fr. $1050. 3 Br's, fr. $1450. Also no credit check apts. avail. MAZIE'S RE 718-293-4555

East Flatbush Newly Renovated spacious 2 Br apt, 1st flr, prvt house, Near all. No smoking. No pets $1450 1 mo rent 1 mo sec. Owner 718-975-4711

★★★EAST NEW YORK★★★
Newly Decorated 4 Br Apt for Rent
2 blocks to Subway & major highway
Call Owner 347-715-4122

PUTNAM Ave: 1 bedroom Apartment, quiet bldg, $1125/month gas included. Reference required. Call Owner (718) 723-8529

Bronx 1 Bed Apt Starting at $975/mo. Trans nearby. Call 212-752-2630 or 718-444-4808 after 5pm & Saturday's.

Rooms

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Call 212-862-0457

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1 Person/2 Person $125wk/up room rentals 212-697-3962

Miscellaneous

PLIMPTON AVE/W 169th St: Furn rm 11x11, 1 window, lg closet, a/c, internet, cable. Share kit/ba. Nr transp $600/mo. Owner 347-578-0052

E. NEW YORK Beautiful room available. 2 blocks to transportation. 2 weeks rent + 2 weeks security. Owner 347-432-1024 / 718-346-7490

Commercial

Peekskill. 1,650 sft store + bsmt, newly renov., hi-traffic area, near City hall, court, p/library. Kitchenette in place, suitable for a deli, retail. Excel Tem avail. Manager 347-546-6374.

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TO PLACE AN AD CALL 866-900-9473
OR VISIT US AT www.metro.us

Vehicles

2005 Cadillac DeVille

White For Sale By Original Owner - Fully Loaded 2005 Cadillac DeVille. All seats heated. Adjustable front seats. Adjustable steering. 6 cd player. Leather interior, sun roof and new tires. Well maintained and always garaged. $10,000.00 (917) 767-5887 pancho221@verizon.net

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